

Message Text

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USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-10 EUR-12 DHA-05 CU-06 /117 W
-----063969 260504Z /21

R 260312Z AUG 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8541
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)
SUBJ: VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE, AUGUST 25

FOR S/PRS AND PA

DEPT PASS NSC AND DR. BRZENZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE
FOR MR. POWELL

DEPT PASS USIA FOR IPS

THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY VANCE'S STATE-
MENT TO THE PRESS AND ENSUING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS AT
A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE MINZU HOTEL, PEKING, AUGUST 25,
1977.

AT THE OUTSET I HAVE A SHORT STATEMENT TO MAKE
THEN I WILL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. LET
ME SAY AT THE OUTSET THAT WE ARE VERY APPRECIATIVE
OF THE KIND HOSPITALITY OF OUR CHINESE HOSTS.
YOU HAVE ALL BEEN WITNESSES TO THE EXTRAORDINARILY
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GRACIOUS ARRANGEMENTS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS PROVIDED FOR MYSELF
AND TO ALL OF OUR PARTY. AS YOU KNOW, I MET
WITH CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG, VICE PREMIER TENG
HSIAO-PING, AND FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA DURING
MY FOUR DAYS IN PEKING. WE HAD CANDID AND SERIOUS
TALKS ON A WIDE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL AND

BILATERAL MATTERS. I CONSIDER THE TALKS TO HAVE BEEN VERY USEFUL AND WILL REPORT IN DETAIL ON THEM TO THE PRESIDENT UPON MY RETURN. I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO DETAILS OF THE TALKS BUT AS A GENERAL CHARACTERIZATION LET ME SIMPLY SAY THE FOLLOWING. I BELIEVE THAT OUR TALKS WERE VERY IMPORTANT IN ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN SENIOR OFFICIALS OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS WHICH WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE. OUR TALKS ENHANCED OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES. AS TO INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, OUR DISCUSSIONS TOUCHED ON MAJOR POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND STRATEGIC QUESTIONS RANGING ACROSS THE GLOBE. WE CONFIRMED THAT WE SHARE IMPORTANT COMMON CONCERNS ON MANY SUBJECTS. AS FOR BILATERAL MATTERS WE HAD A MOST USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. BOTH SIDES CLEARLY BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS AND NORMALIZATION OF OUR RELATIONS IN ACCORD WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE IS IN OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS. I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR DISCUSSIONS. NOW, I WILL BE HAPPY TO TAKE QUESTIONS.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES WITH THE CHINESE WERE THERE UNCLASSIFIED

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AREAS OF THE WORLD WHERE THEY WERE NOT APPROVING OF AMERICAN POLICY AND COULD YOU POINT THOSE AREAS OUT TO US?

A: WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAIL I WOULD SAY THERE ARE AREAS WITHIN THE WORLD IN WHICH THEY HAVE SOME DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS. WITH RESPECT TO OUR PARTICULAR COURSE OF ACTION THERE MAY BE DIFFERENCES IN TERMS OF NUANCES BUT IT WAS VERY USEFUL BECAUSE BOTH OF US DO HAVE GLOBAL INTERESTS TO CLEARLY DISCUSS THESE VARIOUS ISSUES SO THAT WE UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER'S POSITIONS AND THUS WE CAN AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN THE FUTURE.

Q: MR. SECRETARY: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? YOU SAY THESE CONTACTS WILL CONTINUE. DO YOU FORESEE DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, WHAT HAPPENS?

A: I DON'T WANT TO BE SPECIFIC AT THIS POINT OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTINUE.

Q: WILL AMBASSADOR HUANG HUA BE AT THE UNITED NATIONS?

A: MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT HE WILL BE ATTENDING THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE UNITED NATIONS. HE HIMSELF
SHOULD SPEAK SPECIFICALLY TO THAT. I WOULD LOOK FORWARD
TO RETURNING THE VERY KIND HOSPITALITY WHICH HE HAS EX-

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USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-10 EUR-12 DHA-05 CU-06 /117 W
-----064062 260504Z /21

R 260312Z AUG 77
FM USLO PEKING
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FOR S/PRS AND PA

TENDED TO US WHEN HE COMES TO UNITED STATES.

Q: ON THE QUESTION OF NORMALIZATION, AFTER THESE
TALKS DO YOU FEEL THAT THE CHINESE HAVE A
SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION
OR DO WE HAVE AN INDEFINITE AMOUNT OF TIME
FOR THEM?

A. I THINK IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO
COMMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA. ANY SUCH QUESTIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO
THEM. WE BOTH HAVE EXPLAINED TO EACH OTHER OUR
VIEWS IN DEPTH ON THE QUESTION OF NORMALIZATION AND
THIS I THINK HAS BEEN VERY USEFUL TO US AND APPROPRIATE.

Q: LET ME PUT IT TO YOU. DO YOU FEEL A SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT
THE PROCESS?

A: I DON'T THINK IT IS HELPFUL TO CHARACTERIZE THE

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SITUATION IN TERMS OF URGENCY OR LACK OF URGENCY. I HAVE A REPORT TO MAKE TO THE PRESIDENT WHEN I GET HOME AND I WILL REPORT TO HIM IN FULL DETAIL AT THAT TIME. JUST A MINUTE, PLEASE. LET ME SAY THAT THIS WAS AN EXPLORATORY TRIP AS I SAID AT THE OUTSET AND I THINK AS CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG SAID THIS AFTERNOON THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE THESE EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS.

1. MR SECRETARY, PRESIDENT CARTER WAS QUOTED IN AN INTERVIEW SOMETIME BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON AS SAYING THAT THERE WAS NO URGENCY ON THE ISSUE OF RECOGNITION OR NORMALIZATION. DO YOU AGREE WITH THAT STATEMENT?

A: WHAT ARTICLE?

Q: IN A "TIME" MAGAZINE ARTICLE.

A. WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID IS OBVIOUSLY UNITED STATES POLICY.

Q: DID YOU DISCUSS WITH THE CHINESE THE KINDS OF US-TAIWAN RELATIONS THEY MIGHT TOLERATE AND STILL PERMIT FULL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES?

A: AS I INDICATED I AM NOT GOING INTO DETAILS. I THINK IT WOULD BE IN APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO GO INTO DETAILS. LET ME SAY THAT WE DISCUSSED THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL.

Q: AFTER FOUR DAYS OF TALKS DO YOU FEEL THAT GENERALLY, SINCE YOU DON'T WANT TO GO INTO SPECIFICS, DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE ANY CLOSER TO RESOLVING

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THIS MAJOR OBSTACLE TO NORMALIZATION?

A: AGAIN I WOULD REPEAT THAT THESE TALKS WERE EXPLORATORY. I THINK THAT THEY WERE USEFUL TALKS AND I THINK THAT AS A RESULT OF THAT BOTH OF US CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THE VIEWS OF EACH OTHER, AND THAT I THINK HAS BEEN GOOD AND USEFUL.

Q: WELL THEN MAYBE, MR. SECRETARY, THE QUESTION

OUGHT TO BE ARE WE FURTHER APART THAN BEFORE
WE CAME HERE? THEY'RE USEFUL AND WE'RE STILL
EXPLORING. IS THERE GREATER DISTANCE NOW
BETWEEN US AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
THAN THERE WAS BEFORE YOU CAME HERE?

A: THE ANSWER IS NO.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, IN HIS TOAST THE FOREIGN MINISTER
SAID WE BELIEVE THAT SINO-US RELATIONS WILL SURELY
MOVE FORWARD STEADILY AS DESIRED BY BOTH OUR
PEOPLES SO LONG AS BOTH SIDES MAKE SINCERE EFFORTS
IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE. DO YOU FEEL THAT THE UNITED STATES IS
MAKING SUCH A SINCERE EFFORT?

A: I DO.

Q: IN YOUR TOAST AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S TOAST
TONIGHT BOTH OF YOU MENTIONED POINTS IN
COMMON. COULD YOU IDENTIFY THE POINTS IN COMMON?

A: AGAIN I THINK IT IS INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS POINT
FOR ME TO GO INTO DETAIL. I STILL HAVE TO REPORT
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. I THINK IT
IS SIGNIFICANT THAT BOTH OF US HAVE INDICATED IN
OUR TOASTS AND IN OTHER STATEMENTS WHICH WE HAVE
MADE THAT WE DO FIND A NUMBER OF POINTS OF
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COMMON INTEREST AND I THINK THAT THAT IS THE
IMPORTANT POINT.

1: COULD WE PERHAPS ELICIT A RESPONSE FROM YOU,
SIR, ON HOW YOU WOULD CHARACTERIZE HUA KUO-FENG
AND TENG HSIAO-PING AS MEN WITH WHOM TO NEGOTIATE

A: I HAVE MET VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING
BEFORE. I HAD A VERY HIGH REGARD OF HIM AS A
STATESMAN AND AS A LEADER FROM MY PREVIOUS TALKS.
I APPRECIATED VERY MUCH THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET
WITH HIM AGAIN. MY TALKS GAIN THIS TIME
CONFIRMED MY PREVIOUS VIEWS THAT HE IS A STATESMAN
AND A LEADER OF STATURE. I WAS PRIVILEGED
TODAY TO MEET WITH HUA KUOFFENG. HE IS MOST
CERTAINLY A STATESMAN AND A DISTINGUISHED LEADER OF
HIS NATION.

Q: MY QUESTION WAS, SIR, AS TO WHETHER OR NOT YOU
CAN APPRAISE THEM AS NEGOTIATORS.

A: I THINK THAT MIGHT BE PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, HOW LONG DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE BEFORE THE REMAINING 1,000 OR SO AMERICAN TROOPS ARE PULLED OUT OF TAIWAN.

A: I DO NOT WISH TO GET INTO SPECIFICS ON ANY OF THOSE KINDS OF QUESTIONS.

Q: MR. SECREARY, DID YOU ACTUALLY DISCUSS THE MECHANICS OF NORMALIZATION IN ALL THESE TALKS?

A: WE DISCUSSED NORMALIZATION AND THE DETAILS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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NORMALIZATION.

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USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-10 EUR-12 DHA-05 CU-06 /117 W
-----064135 260505Z /21

R 260312Z AUG 77
FM USLO PEKING
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Q: COULD YOU GIVE US SOME IDEA OF THE NATURE OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE SOVIET UNION?

A: ONE OF THE SUBJECTS WHICH WE DISCUSSED WAS

THE SOVIET UNION, BUT LET ME REPEAT WHAT I HAVE SAID MANY TIMES; NAMELY, THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS ONE OF THE CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY, BUT THAT IS NO WAY JEOPARDIZES ANY THIRD COUNTRY. I HAVE SAID THAT REPEATEDLY AND I SAY IT AGAIN.

Q: DID YOU REACH AGREEMENT OR NEAR AGREEMENT ON ANY OF THE LESSER ISSUES, BILATERAL ISSUES, LIKE EXCHANGES, TRADE, ASSETS, OR OTHER SUCH ITEMS?

A: WE WERE INVOLVED IN EXPLORATORY TALKS AND WE DISCUSSED THOSE KINDS OF ISSUES WHICH YOU HAVE MENTIONED. THIS WAS BUT THE FIRST TALK BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND TALKS WILL CONTINUE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE FUTURE.

Q: DO YOU THINK THOSE OTHER ISSUES INCLUDING ASSETS AND CLAIMS WILL HAVE TO AWAIT SETTLEMENT UNTIL THE TAIWAN QUESTION IS SETTLED?

A: I DON'T KNOW.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, THE PRESIDENT SAID A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO THAT HE THOUGHT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT RELATIONS COULD BE NORMALIZED WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR? DO YOU THINK AFTER FOUR DAYS OF TALKS THAT IS STILL A POSSIBLE AND REALISTIC HOPE?

A: I WOULDN'T WANT TO CONTRADICT THE PRESIDENT IN ANY WAY.

Q: ONE OF THE TOASTS TONIGHT BY THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER TALKED ABOUT HOW OUR TWO COUNTRIES FACED QUESTIONS OF COMMON CONCERN AND WE HAD QUITE A FEW POINTS IN COMMON. TELL ME, SIR, COULD YOU ITEMIZE SOME OF THESE POINTS?

A: AGAIN, MR. KALB, I HAVE SAID REPEATEDLY THAT I DO NOT WISH TO GO INTO DETAIL. I THINK IT IS INAPPROPRIATE TO GO INTO DETAIL.

Q: DID YOU FIND THE THRUST AND STYLE OF MR. TENG'S REMARKS THIS TIME REMINISCENT OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM TWO YEARS AGO?

A. I FOUND HIM BEFORE AND I FOUND HIM THIS TIME UNCLASSIFIED

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INCISIVE, THOUGHTFUL, ARTICULATE, AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE THIS VIEW DEVELOPED LAST TIME THAT WE HAD AN ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGE. HE AND I WERE TALKING ABOUT THAT IN OUR MEETING YESTERDAY. NEITHER OF US RECALL ANY SUCH ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGE. WE HAD A DIFFERENCE OF VIEWPOINT ON ONE OF TWO POINTS BUT THEY WEREN'T EXPRESSED IN ANY ACRIMONIOUS FASHION. THEY WERE CONDUCTED IN A FRIENDLY AND CORDIAL TMOSPHERE.

Q: WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF HEARING IT FROM THE CHINESE FIRSTHAND? IS THERE ANYTHING YOU KNOW NOW THAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHEN YOU CAME FROM WASHINGTON?

A: YES, INDEED. I THINK IT IS ALWAYS ADVANTAGEOUS TO SIT DOWN FIRST HAND, PARTICULARLY WITH THE LEADERS OF A COUNTRY AND TO HAVE A CHANCE TO LAY OUT OUR VIEWS ON ISSUES IN WHICH ONE HAS A COMMON INTEREST AND ISSUES WHERE THERE MAY BE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AND FOR THE OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO PROBE THEIR VIEWS SO THAT WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DETAILS AND NUANCES OF THOSE POSITIONS AND FOR THEM TO BE ABLE TO DO THE SAME WITH US. I THINK THAT ANYBODY WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS IN THE PAST KNOWS FULL WELL THAT THIS IS ESSENTIAL IF ONE IS GOING TO PROCEED TO DEVELOP UNDERSTANDING.

Q: IN TERMS OF DETAIL OR NUANCE HAVEYOU SEEN ANY ALTERATION IN THE CHINESE POSITION BETWEEN THE TIME YOU LEFT WASHINGTON AND NOW?

A: AGAIN, I DO NOT WISH TO COMMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CHINESE.

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Q: MR. SECRETARY, HAVE THE CHINESE GIVEN YOU THE CONDITIONS FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS?

A: THE CHINESE POSITION ON A NUMBER OF THE MATTERS RELATING TO TAIWAN HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED PUBLICLY AND I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE BEST IF I LEFT IT THAT WAY.

Q: WERE THERE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS MADE FOR SOLVING OF SOME OF THE LESSER ISSUES, SUCH AS ASSETS, CULTURAL EXCHANGE?

A: THERE WAS A FULL DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES. THERE HAVE BEEN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS ON A NUMBER OF THESE ISSUES BEFORE AND WHAT WE WERE DOING IN THIS PARTICULAR AREAS, SUCH AS CULTURAL EXCHANGES, TRADE AND THOSE KINDS OF MATTERS WAS TO BACK UP AND CARRY ON FROM A SPECIFIC SITUATION.

Q: COULD I FOLLOW UP WITH TWO POINTS: 1) DID YOU BRING UP THE SUBJECT OF THE CHINESE JAMMING THE VOICE OF AMERICA.

A: NO, THAT SPECIFIC ISSUE DID NOT ARISE.

Q: IF NOT, WHY NOT? IS IT NOT SOMETHING THAT WOULD IMPROVE RELATIONS FROM A U.S. POINT OF VIEW?

A: WE WILL BE HAVING FURTHER DISCUSSION IN THE FUTURE. WE HAVE ONLY SO MUCH TIME.

Q: SECOND POINT, DID YOU AND AT WHAT LEVEL BRING UP THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS?
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A: YES I DID. IN DISCUSSING OUR FOREIGN POLICY, OBVIOUSLY I DISCUSSED HUMAN RIGHTS BECAUSE IT IS ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY AND I LAID OUT OUR VIEW ON THIS AND I HOPE CLARIFIED IT.

Q: DID THE CHINESE RESPOND TO YOUR VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS?

A: I HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH THEM OVER AND ABOVE MY OWN STATEMENT.

Q: AT WHAT LEVEL WAS THAT? WAS IT JUST AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL OR ...

A: I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO INDIVIDUALS, IT WAS AT A HIGH LEVEL.

Q: WAS HUMAN RIGHTS DISCUSSED IN RELATION TO CHINA?

A: I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO ANY FURTHER DETAIL ON THAT THAN I HAVE ALREADY.

QC MR. SECRETARY, IN YOUR TOAST TONIGHT YOU SAID "I BELIEVE WE HAVE ENHANCED OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING" AND YOU WENT ON. I'M GOING TO ASK YOU, CAN YOU SHARE WITH US HOW THERE WAS AN ENHANCEMENT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, FOR EXAMPLE, ON THE CONFLICTING VIEWS OF TAIWAN.

A: SURELY. THERE WAS AN OPPORTUNITY IN THE FACE TO FACE DISCUSSIONS WHICH I HAD WITH THE THREE LEADERS WITH WHOM I SPENT MANY HOURS OF CONVERSATION

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USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-10 EUR-12 DHA-05 CU-06 /117 W
-----064314 260503Z /21

R 260312Z AUG 77
FM USLO PEKING
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TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS AND POSITIONS OF BOTH PARTIES AND IN THE PROCESS OF SUCH A DISCUSSION LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OR MISUNDERSTANDINGS OR DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS ARE OFTEN CLARIFIED AND THIS WAS THE CASE.

Q: DID YOU HAVE A FEELING THAT THE CHINESE UNDERSTOOD SOME OF THE COMPLEXITIES FROM THE AMERICAN POINT OF VIEW IN MEETING THE CHINESE REQUIREMENTS ON TAIWAN?

A: I DON'T WANT TO EXPRESS A VIEW ON BEHALF OF THEM. THEY ARE EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT AND I THINK THEY UNDERSTOOD EXACTLY WHAT I WAS SAYING.

Q: DID YOU SAY ANYTHING TO THEM ABOUT THE ROLE
OR ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. CONGRESS ON NORMALIZATION?

A: I DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH THE DOMESTIC
SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES IN GENERAL TERMS,
OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE CONGRESS, THE CHANGES
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WHICH HAVE OCCURRED OVER THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF
OR SO. I THINK THIS WAS A USEFUL DISCUSSION FROM
THEIR STANDPOINT TO HEAR FIRSTHAND WHAT THE VIEWS
OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE AND OF THOSE
WHO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN
THE CONGRESS.

Q: WHEN YOU SAY OVER THE CHANGES OF THE LAST
YEAR AND A HALF, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

A: LET ME GIVE YOU A COUPLE OF EXAMPLES.
I THINK THAT IN THE UNITED STATES THERE IS
GENERAL AND BROAD SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT
AND THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY. I THINK, SECONDLY,
THAT THE TRENDS WHICH APPEAR TO BE DEVELOPING
IN EARLIER YEARS TOWARD A WITHDRAWING AND,
THEREFORE, AN UNWILLINGNESS TO PLAY A ROLE IN
THE INTERNATIONAL SPHERE, A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE,
HAS CHANGED AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE
PREPARED TO SUPPORT A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE BY THE
UNITED STATES IN INTERNATIONAL TRENDS.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, WOULD YOU SAY IN THE MOST
GENERAL TERMS THAT YOU ARE GOING AWAY FROM HERE
MORE CONFIDENT OF BEING ABLE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS
OR MERELY BETTER INFORMED ON THE DIFFICULTIES?

A: I WOULD SAY THAT I GO AWAY FROM HERE BETTER
INFORMED. CERTAINLY THERE IS NO QUESTION ABOUT THAT.
I THINK THAT AS I LEAVE HERE THAT THE LEADERS
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC PROBABLY NOW HAVE A
BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE VIEWS OF OUR GOVERNMENT
AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THESE ISSUES
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AND I HOPE AND BELIEVE THAT AS A PART OF THAT
PROCESS THAT WE ARE BOTH MORE UNDERSTANDING AND

THUS ARE IN A POSITION WHERE WE HAVE A BETTER GRASP OF THE PROBLEMS OF NORMALIZATION. WE BOTH HAVE STATED THAT WE BELIEVE IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO PROCEED TOWARD NORMALIZATION. THAT HAS BEEN THE STATED GOAL OF OUR COUNTRY. IT HAS BEEN STATED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BY ME AND IT REMAINS OUR POSITION.

Q: WHEN YOU CAME TO THIS SERIES OF MEETINGS YOU HAD IN YOUR MIND SOME QUESTION ABOUT HOW THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC MIGHT REACT TO CERTAIN AMERICAN INITIATIVES IN THE NORMALIZATION PROCESS. WITHOUT INTRUDING ON THE SUBSTANCE OF WHATEVER ANSWERS YOU HAVE RECEIVED;, DO YOU LEAVE PEKING WITH THE NOTION THAT YOU NOW DO UNDERSTAND THE POSITION OF THIS GOVERNMENT ON THIS QUESTION.

A: I BELIEVE I DO.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, A TECHNICAL QUESTION, WHY IS THERE NO COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THIS MEETING?

A: THE REASON IS VERY SIMPLE ONE. WE TALKED IT OVER. WE DECIDED THAT INASMUCH AS THIS WAS AND EXPLORATORY MEETING THERE WAS NO NEED FOR A COMMUNIQUE AT THIS TIME. THERE HAD BEEN PREVIOUS MEETINGS HERE DURING THE LAST ADMINISTRATION WHERE THERE WERE NO COMMUNIQUES, IT SEEMED TO ME THAT THERE BEING NO REASON FOR IT THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO TRY AND DRAFT A COMMUNIQUE. OUR HOSTS AGREED AND WE DECIDED TO PROCEED IN THAT FASHION. IT WAS AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

Q: DID YOU SPECIFICALLY DISCUSS CONGRESSIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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OPINION OF TAIWAN AND THE TAIWAN QUESTION?

A: IN DESCRIBING THE DOMESTIC SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES THAT WAS ONE OF THE SUBJECTS THAT I DISCUSSED.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, DID YOU GET ANY MORE INDICATIONS OF FLEXIBILITY IN YOUR PRIVATE TALKS ON THE QUESTION OF TAIWAN THAN WE SEEM TO BE HEARING IN PUBLIC?

A: I DON'T WANT TO TALK IN TERMS OF FLEXIBILITY OR LACK OF FLEXIBILITY. AGAIN YOU ARE TRYING TO GET INTO DETAIL I DON'T WANT

TO GET INTO.

Q: WITHOUT GOING INTO SUBSTANCE, ARE YOU ABLE TO SAY THAT YOU MADE, IN THIS SERIES OF MEETINGS, ANY PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZATION?

A: LET ME SAY SIMPLY THAT I THINK THIS WAS A VERY USEFUL MEETING. AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, IT WAS A GOOD MEETING, A CONSTRUCTIVE MEETING. I WILL LEAVE IT AT THAT.

Q: DID THE CHINESE ASK QUESTIONS OR EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT WEAKENING OF AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN ASIS?

A: IN ASIA?

Q: YES

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A: NO.

Q: OR ELSEWHERE.

A: WE HAD A DISCUSSION ABOUT ALL OF THE VARIOUS REGIONS OF THE WORLD AND I THINK AS A RESULT OF THAT I THINK THEY HAVE A MUCH CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION AND OF THE NEW INITIATIVES WHICH WE HAVE TAKEN AND I THINK REACTED FAVORABLY TO A NUMBER OF THESE INITIATIVES.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, YOU WILL BE GLING TO JAPAN TO REPORT ON THESE TALKS. WILL YOU ALSO BE SENDING ANYONE TO THE SOUTH KOREA OR PHILLIPINES?

A: I WILL INDEED, YES.

Q: WILL YOU BE SENDING ANYONE TO TAIWAN?

A: I WILL BE SENDING THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY MR. HOLBROOKE TO SOUTH KOREA. THIS HAS BEEN TRADITIONAL IN THE PAST THAT AFTER A MEETING IN PEKING THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHOULD GO AND HAVE TALKS IN SEOUL AND IT IS ALSO TRADITIONAL FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GO TO TAIPEI AND HAVE TALKDS THERE. THAT WILL CONTINUE HERE AS IT DID IN THE PAST.

THANK YOU, SIR.
WOODCOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING01870
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: PEKING
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 13
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1468446
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE, AUGUST 25 FOR S/PRS AND PA DEPT PASS NSC AND DR. BRZENZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, CH, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
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vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/99d45b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009